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Practitioner's Docket No.: 967\_023

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Koichi Komoda

April 25, 2002

Ser. No.: 10/031,360

Art Unit: Not Assigned

Filed: January 18, 2002

Examiner: Not Assigned

For: PLAYBACK/RECORDING APPARATUS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

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*Susanne C. Burgess*  
Susanne C. Burgess

## SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination, Applicant wishes to amend the subject application as follows:

**In the Claims:**

Please cancel Claims 4, 5, 8, 9, 12, 15, 17, 20, 31-39, and 49-80.

Please add the following new claims:

1       --81. A storage medium or a removable storage medium having  
2 information indicating whether transfer of contents is permitted or not, on which  
3 transfer of contents is carried out by the playback/recording apparatus, which is  
4 defined in Claim 1.

1       82. A storage medium or a removable storage medium having  
2 information indicating whether transfer of contents is carried out by the  
3 playback/erasing apparatus as the first apparatus, which is defined in Claim 10.

1       83. A storage medium or a removable storage medium having  
2 information indicating whether transfer of contents is permitted or not, on which  
3 transfer of contents is carried out by the recording apparatus as the second apparatus,  
4 which is defined in Claim 16.--

**REMARKS**

Applicant has canceled Claims 4, 5, 8, 9, 12, 15, 17, 20, 31-39, and 49-80 and has added new Claims 81-83. No new matter has been added.

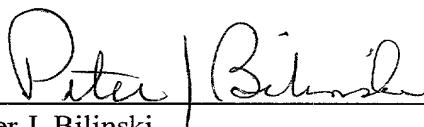
Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned **"Version with markings to show changes made."**

If the Examiner believes that contact with Applicant's attorney would be advantageous toward the disposition of this case, the Examiner is herein requested to call Applicant's attorney at the phone number noted below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0289.

Respectfully submitted,

**WALL MARJAMA & BILINSKI LLP**

By:   
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Customer No.:   
20874

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

**"VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."**

**In the Claims:**

Claims 4, 5, 8, 9, 12, 15, 17, 20, 31-39, and 49-80 have been cancelled.

Claims 81-83 have been added.

10/031360  
JC13 Rec'd PCT/P79 18 JAN 2002

Practitioner's Docket No.: 967\_023

PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the application of: Komoda Koichi

Ser. No.: Not Assigned

Art Unit: Not Assigned

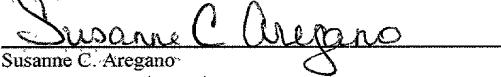
Filed: Concurrently Herewith

Examiner: Not Assigned

For: PLAYBACK/RECORDING APPARATUS

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January 18, 2002.

  
Susanne C. Aregano

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Prior to examination, Applicant wishes to amend the subject application as follows:

**In the Specification:**

Please delete the title DESCRIPTION on page 1.

Please replace the title TECHNICAL FIELD beginning at page 1, line 1, with the following title:

**--FIELD OF INVENTION--**

Please replace the title BACKGROUND ART beginning at page 1, line 8, with the following title:

**--BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--**

Please insert the title **--SUMMARY OF INVENTION--** beginning at page 2, line 17.

Please delete the title DISCLOSURE OF THE INVENTION beginning at page 2, line 23.

Please insert the following paragraph on page 25, line 17 as written below:

--The playback/recording apparatus according to the present invention is useful as means for transferring copy-inhibited contents recorded on a storage medium to another storage medium without copying it.--

Please replace the title BEST MODE TO EXECUTE THE INVENTION beginning at page 26, line 23, with the following title:

**--DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION--**

Please delete the heading Embodiment 1. beginning at page 26, line 24.

Please delete the heading Embodiment 2. beginning at page 28, line 18.

Please delete the heading Embodiment 3. beginning at page 30, line 19.

Please delete the heading Embodiment 4. beginning at page 33, line 30.

Please delete the heading Embodiment 5. beginning at page 36, line 26.

Please delete the heading Embodiment 6. beginning at page 43, line 8.

Please delete the heading Embodiment 7. beginning at page 46, line 25.

Please delete the in its entirety the paragraph beginning at page 48, line 7.

**In the Claims:**

Please amend Claims 21-30 and 40-46 as follows:

1        21. (Amended) The playback/recording apparatus defined in Claim 6 further  
2 comprising a temporary storage means for temporarily storing the contents;  
3            wherein the contents are temporarily stored in the temporary storage means.

1        22. (Amended) The playback/erasing apparatus as the first apparatus defined  
2 in Claim 13 further comprising a temporary storage means for temporarily storing  
3 the contents;  
4            wherein the contents are temporarily stored in the temporary storage means.

1        23. (Amended) The recording apparatus as the second apparatus defined in  
2 Claim 18 further comprising a temporary storage means for temporarily storing the  
3 contents;  
4            wherein the contents are temporarily stored in the temporary storage means.

1        24. (Amended) The playback/recording apparatus defined in Claim 1 further  
2 comprising:

3            a second playback means for reproducing the contents recorded on the second  
4 storage medium; and

5            a control means for controlling the playback means or the erasing means, the  
6 second playback means, and the recording means;

7            wherein the playback means or the erasing means, the second playback means,  
8 and the recording means are controlled by the control means on the basis of transfer  
9 information including information of collation between a recording signal to the  
10 second storage medium and a reproduced signal from the second storage medium, or  
11 the like, thereby performing transfer of the contents.

1        25. (Amended) The playback/recording apparatus defined in Claim 3,  
2 further comprising:

3           a second playback means for reproducing the contents recorded on the second  
4   storage medium;

5           a first control means for controlling the playback means and the erasing means;  
6   and

7           a second control means for controlling the second playback means and the  
8   recording means;

9           wherein the playback means or the erasing means, the second playback means,  
10   and the recording means are controlled by the first control means or the second  
11   control means, on the basis of transfer information including information of collation  
12   between a recording signal to the second storage medium and a reproduced signal  
13   from the second storage medium, or the like, thereby performing transfer of the  
14   contents.

1           26. (Amended) The playback/erasing apparatus as the first apparatus defined  
2   in Claim 10, further comprising a first control means for controlling the playback  
3   means and the erasing means;

4           wherein the playback means and the erasing means are controlled by the first  
5   control means, thereby performing transfer of the contents.

1           27. (Amended) The recording apparatus as the second apparatus defined in  
2   Claim 16, further comprising:

3           a second playback means for reproducing the contents recorded on the second  
4   storage means; and

5           a second control means for controlling the second playback means and the  
6   recording means;

7           wherein the second playback means and the recording means are controlled by  
8   the second control means on the basis of transfer information including information  
9   of collation between a recording signal to the second storage medium and a  
10   reproduced signal from the second storage medium, or the like, thereby performing  
11   transfer of the contents.

1        28. (Amended) The playback/recording apparatus defined in Claim 3,  
2 wherein mutual authentication by the first authentication means or the second  
3 authentication means is also carried out during transfer of the contents, and the  
4 transfer of the contents is continued when mutual authentication is established.

1        29. (Amended) The playback/erasing apparatus as the first apparatus defined  
2 in Claim 10, wherein mutual authentication by the first authentication means is also  
3 carried out during transfer of the contents, and the transfer of the contents is  
4 continued when mutual authentication is established.

1        30. (Amended) The recording apparatus as the second apparatus defined in  
2 Claim 16, wherein mutual authentication by the second authentication means is also  
3 carried out during transfer of the contents, and the transfer of the contents is  
4 continued when mutual authentication is established.

1        40. (Amended) The playback/recording apparatus defined in Claim 1  
2 further comprising a transfer instruction means for sending an instruction for  
3 transferring the contents, to the playback/ recording apparatus;  
4            wherein transfer of the contents is carried out according to the instruction of  
5 the transfer instruction means.

1        41. (Amended) The playback/recording apparatus defined in Claim 3,  
2 further comprising a transfer instruction means for sending an instruction for  
3 transferring the contents, to the first apparatus;  
4            wherein transfer of the contents is carried out according to the instruction of  
5 the transfer instruction means.

1        42. (Amended) The playback/erasing apparatus as the first apparatus defined  
2 in Claim 10, further comprising a transfer instruction means for sending an  
3 instruction for transferring the contents, to the first apparatus;

4        wherein transfer of the contents is carried out according to the instruction of  
5        the transfer instruction means.

1        43. (Amended) The playback/recording apparatus defined in Claim 1 further  
2        comprising a transfer display means for displaying whether the contents are being  
3        transferred or not;

4                wherein, when the contents are being transferred, it is displayed by the transfer  
5        display means for the outside of the apparatus.

1        44. (Amended) The playback/recording apparatus defined in Claim 3,  
2        wherein:

3                the first apparatus is provided with a transfer display means for displaying  
4        whether the contents are being transferred or not; and

5                when the contents are being transferred, it is displayed by the transfer display  
6        means for the outside of the apparatus.

1        45. (Amended) The playback/erasing apparatus as the first apparatus defined  
2        in Claim 10, further comprising a transfer display means for displaying whether the  
3        contents are being transferred or not;

4                wherein, when the contents are being transferred, it is displayed by the transfer  
5        display means for the outside of the apparatus.

1        46. (Amended) A storage medium or a removable storage medium having  
2        information indicating whether transfer of contents is permitted or not, on which  
3        transfer of contents is carried out by the playback/recording apparatus, or the  
4        playback/erasing apparatus as the first apparatus, or the recording apparatus as the  
5        second apparatus, which is defined in Claim 3.

Please add new Claims 52-80 as follows:

1       --52. The playback/recording apparatus defined in Claim 7 further comprising  
2       a temporary storage means for temporarily storing the contents;  
3       wherein the contents are temporarily stored in the temporary storage means.

1       53. The playback/erasing apparatus as the first apparatus defined in Claim 14  
2       further comprising a temporary storage means for temporarily storing the contents;  
3       wherein the contents are temporarily stored in the temporary storage means.

1       54. The recording apparatus as the second apparatus defined in Claim 19  
2       further comprising a temporary storage means for temporarily storing the contents;  
3       wherein the contents are temporarily stored in the temporary storage means.

1       55. The playback/recording apparatus defined in Claim 2 further comprising:  
2       a second playback means for reproducing the contents recorded on the second  
3       storage medium; and  
4       a control means for controlling the playback means or the erasing means, the  
5       second playback means, and the recording means;  
6       wherein the playback means or the erasing means, the second playback means,  
7       and the recording means are controlled by the control means on the basis of transfer  
8       information including information of collation between a recording signal to the  
9       second storage medium and a reproduced signal from the second storage medium, or  
10      the like, thereby performing transfer of the contents.

1       56. The playback/recording apparatus defined in Claim 6, further comprising:  
2       a second playback means for reproducing the contents recorded on the second  
3       storage medium;  
4       a first control means for controlling the playback means and the erasing means;  
5       and

6        a second control means for controlling the second playback means and the  
7 recording means;

8        wherein the playback means or the erasing means, the second playback means,  
9 and the recording means are controlled by the first control means or the second  
10 control means, on the basis of transfer information including information of collation  
11 between a recording signal to the second storage medium and a reproduced signal  
12 from the second storage medium, or the like, thereby performing transfer of the  
13 contents.

1        57. The playback/recording apparatus defined in Claim 7, further comprising:  
2            a second playback means for reproducing the contents recorded on the second  
3 storage medium;

4            a first control means for controlling the playback means and the erasing means;  
5 and

6            a second control means for controlling the second playback means and the  
7 recording means;

8        wherein the playback means or the erasing means, the second playback means,  
9 and the recording means are controlled by the first control means or the second  
10 control means, on the basis of transfer information including information of collation  
11 between a recording signal to the second storage medium and a reproduced signal  
12 from the second storage medium, or the like, thereby performing transfer of the  
13 contents.

1        58. The playback/erasing apparatus as the first apparatus defined in Claim  
2 11, further comprising a first control means for controlling the playback means and  
3 the erasing means;

4        wherein the playback means and the erasing means are controlled by the first  
5 control means, thereby performing transfer of the contents.

1        59. The playback/erasing apparatus as the first apparatus defined in Claim 13,  
2 further comprising a first control means for controlling the playback means and the  
3 erasing means;

4                wherein the playback means and the erasing means are controlled by the first  
5 control means, thereby performing transfer of the contents.

1        60. The playback/erasing apparatus as the first apparatus defined in Claim  
2 14, further comprising a first control means for controlling the playback means and  
3 the erasing means;

4                wherein the playback means and the erasing means are controlled by the first  
5 control means, thereby performing transfer of the contents.

1        61. The recording apparatus as the second apparatus defined in Claim 18,  
2 further comprising:

3                a second playback means for reproducing the contents recorded on the second  
4 storage means; and

5                a second control means for controlling the second playback means and the  
6 recording means;

7                wherein the second playback means and the recording means are controlled by  
8 the second control means on the basis of transfer information including information  
9 of collation between a recording signal to the second storage medium and a  
10 reproduced signal from the second storage medium, or the like, thereby performing  
11 transfer of the contents.

1        62. The recording apparatus as the second apparatus defined in Claim 19,  
2 further comprising:

3                a second playback means for reproducing the contents recorded on the second  
4 storage means; and

5                a second control means for controlling the second playback means and the  
6 recording means;

7       wherein the second playback means and the recording means are controlled by  
8   the second control means on the basis of transfer information including information  
9   of collation between a recording signal to the second storage medium and a  
10   reproduced signal from the second storage medium, or the like, thereby performing  
11   transfer of the contents.

1       63. The playback/recording apparatus defined in Claim 6, wherein mutual  
2   authentication by the first authentication means or the second authentication means  
3   is also carried out during transfer of the contents, and the transfer of the contents is  
4   continued when mutual authentication is established.

5       64. The playback/recording apparatus defined in Claim 7, wherein mutual  
6   authentication by the first authentication means or the second authentication means  
7   is also carried out during transfer of the contents, and the transfer of the contents is  
8   continued when mutual authentication is established.

1       65. The playback/erasing apparatus as the first apparatus defined in Claim  
2   11, wherein mutual authentication by the first authentication means is also carried  
3   out during transfer of the contents, and the transfer of the contents is continued when  
4   mutual authentication is established.

1       66. The playback/erasing apparatus as the first apparatus defined in Claim  
2   13, wherein mutual authentication by the first authentication means is also carried  
3   out during transfer of the contents, and the transfer of the contents is continued when  
4   mutual authentication is established.

1       67. The playback/erasing apparatus as the first apparatus defined in Claim  
2   14, wherein mutual authentication by the first authentication means is also carried  
3   out during transfer of the contents, and the transfer of the contents is continued when  
4   mutual authentication is established.

1       68. The recording apparatus as the second apparatus defined in Claim 18,  
2 wherein mutual authentication by the second authentication means is also carried out  
3 during transfer of the contents, and the transfer of the contents is continued when  
4 mutual authentication is established.

1       69. The recording apparatus as the second apparatus defined in Claim 19,  
2 wherein mutual authentication by the second authentication means is also carried out  
3 during transfer of the contents, and the transfer of the contents is continued when  
4 mutual authentication is established.

1       70. The playback/recording apparatus defined in any of Claim 6 further  
2 comprising a transfer instruction means for sending an instruction for transferring  
3 the contents, to the first apparatus;

4           wherein transfer of the contents is carried out according to the instruction of  
5 the transfer instruction means.

1       71. The playback/recording apparatus defined in any of Claim 7 further  
2 comprising a transfer instruction means for sending an instruction for transferring  
3 the contents, to the first apparatus;

4           wherein transfer of the contents is carried out according to the instruction of  
5 the transfer instruction means.

1       72. The playback/erasing apparatus as the first apparatus defined in Claim  
2 11, further comprising a transfer instruction means for sending an instruction for  
3 transferring the contents, to the first apparatus;

4           wherein transfer of the contents is carried out according to the instruction of  
5 the transfer instruction means.

1        73. The playback/erasing apparatus as the first apparatus defined in Claim  
2 13, further comprising a transfer instruction means for sending an instruction for  
3 transferring the contents, to the first apparatus;

4            wherein transfer of the contents is carried out according to the instruction of  
5 the transfer instruction means.

1        74. The playback/erasing apparatus as the first apparatus defined in Claim  
2 14, further comprising a transfer instruction means for sending an instruction for  
3 transferring the contents, to the first apparatus;

4            wherein transfer of the contents is carried out according to the instruction of  
5 the transfer instruction means.

6        75. The playback/recording apparatus defined in Claim 2 further comprising  
7 a transfer display means for displaying whether the contents are being transferred or  
8 not;

9            wherein, when the contents are being transferred, it is displayed by the transfer  
10 display means for the outside of the apparatus.

1        76. The playback/recording apparatus defined in any of Claim 6, wherein:  
2            the first apparatus is provided with a transfer display means for displaying  
3 whether the contents are being transferred or not; and  
4            when the contents are being transferred, it is displayed by the transfer display  
5 means for the outside of the apparatus.

1        77. The playback/recording apparatus defined in any of Claim 7, wherein:  
2            the first apparatus is provided with a transfer display means for displaying  
3 whether the contents are being transferred or not; and  
4            when the contents are being transferred, it is displayed by the transfer display  
5 means for the outside of the apparatus.

1        78. The playback/erasing apparatus as the first apparatus defined in Claim  
2        11, further comprising a transfer display means for displaying whether the contents  
3        are being transferred or not;

4                wherein, when the contents are being transferred, it is displayed by the transfer  
5        display means for the outside of the apparatus.

1        79. The playback/erasing apparatus as the first apparatus defined in Claim  
2        13, further comprising a transfer display means for displaying whether the contents  
3        are being transferred or not;

4                wherein, when the contents are being transferred, it is displayed by the transfer  
5        display means for the outside of the apparatus.

1        80. The playback/erasing apparatus as the first apparatus defined in Claim  
2        14, further comprising a transfer display means for displaying whether the contents  
3        are being transferred or not;

4                wherein, when the contents are being transferred, it is displayed by the transfer  
5        display means for the outside of the apparatus.--

## REMARKS

Prior to examination, Applicant has amended the above-captioned patent application to place the application into acceptable U.S. format by adding proper headings, and removing multiple dependencies. To that end, Claims 52-80 have been added. It is believed no new matter has been added to the application. It is believed the application is in a proper condition for examination by the Office.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

If the Examiner believes that contact with Applicant's attorney would be advantageous toward the disposition of this case, he is herein requested to call the undersigned at the phone number noted below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0289.

Respectfully submitted,

**WALL MARJAMA & BILINSKI LLP**

By:   
Peter J. Bilinski  
Reg. No. 35,067

Dated: January 18, 2002

PJB/sca  
Telephone: (315) 425-9000

Customer No.:   
20874

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

**"VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."**

**In the Specification:**

Please replace the title TECHNICAL FIELD beginning at line 1 of page 1 with the following title:

**FIELD OF INVENTION**

Please replace the title BACKGROUND ART beginning at line 8 of page 1 with the following title:

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

Please insert the title **SUMMARY OF INVENTION** beginning at line 17 of page 2.

Please insert the following paragraph on page 25, line 17 as written below:

The playback/recording apparatus according to the present invention is useful as means for transferring copy-inhibited contents recorded on a storage medium to another storage medium without copying it.

Please replace the title BEST MODE TO EXECUTE THE INVENTION beginning at line 23 of page 26 with the following title:

**DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION**

**In the Claims:**

Claims 21-30 and 40-46 have been amended as follows:

- 1        21. (Amended) The playback/recording apparatus defined in Claim 6 [or 7]
- 2        further comprising a temporary storage means for temporarily storing the contents;
- 3        wherein the contents are temporarily stored in the temporary storage means.

1        22. (Amended) The playback/erasing apparatus as the first apparatus defined  
2 in Claim 13 [or 14] further comprising a temporary storage means for temporarily  
3 storing the contents;

4              wherein the contents are temporarily stored in the temporary storage means.

1        23. (Amended) The recording apparatus as the second apparatus defined in  
2 Claim 18 [or 19] further comprising a temporary storage means for temporarily  
3 storing the contents;

4              wherein the contents are temporarily stored in the temporary storage means.

1        24. (Amended) The playback/recording apparatus defined in Claim 1 [or 2]  
2 further comprising:

3              a second playback means for reproducing the contents recorded on the second  
4 storage medium; and

5              a control means for controlling the playback means or the erasing means, the  
6 second playback means, and the recording means;

7              wherein the playback means or the erasing means, the second playback means,  
8 and the recording means are controlled by the control means on the basis of transfer  
9 information including information of collation between a recording signal to the  
10 second storage medium and a reproduced signal from the second storage medium, or  
11 the like, thereby performing transfer of the contents.

1        25. (Amended) The playback/recording apparatus defined in [any of Claims  
2 3, 6, and 7] Claim 3, further comprising:

3              a second playback means for reproducing the contents recorded on the second  
4 storage medium;

5              a first control means for controlling the playback means and the erasing means;  
6 and

7              a second control means for controlling the second playback means and the  
8 recording means;

9       wherein the playback means or the erasing means, the second playback means,  
10 and the recording means are controlled by the first control means or the second  
11 control means, on the basis of transfer information including information of collation  
12 between a recording signal to the second storage medium and a reproduced signal  
13 from the second storage medium, or the like, thereby performing transfer of the  
14 contents.

1       26. (Amended) The playback/erasing apparatus as the first apparatus defined  
2 in [any of Claims 10, 11, 13, and 14] Claim 10, further comprising a first control  
3 means for controlling the playback means and the erasing means;

4               wherein the playback means and the erasing means are controlled by the first  
5 control means, thereby performing transfer of the contents.

1       27. (Amended) The recording apparatus as the second apparatus defined in  
2 [any of Claims 16, 18, and 19] Claim 16, further comprising:

3               a second playback means for reproducing the contents recorded on the second  
4 storage means; and

5               a second control means for controlling the second playback means and the  
6 recording means;

7               wherein the second playback means and the recording means are controlled by  
8 the second control means on the basis of transfer information including information  
9 of collation between a recording signal to the second storage medium and a  
10 reproduced signal from the second storage medium, or the like, thereby performing  
11 transfer of the contents.

1       28. (Amended) The playback/recording apparatus defined in [any of Claims  
2 3, 6, and 7] Claim 3, wherein mutual authentication by the first authentication means  
3 or the second authentication means is also carried out during transfer of the contents,  
4 and the transfer of the contents is continued when mutual authentication is  
5 established.

1        29. (Amended) The playback/erasing apparatus as the first apparatus defined  
2 in [any of Claims 10, 11, 13, and 14] Claim 10, wherein mutual authentication by  
3 the first authentication means is also carried out during transfer of the contents, and  
4 the transfer of the contents is continued when mutual authentication is established.

1        30. (Amended) The recording apparatus as the second apparatus defined in  
2 [any of Claims 16, 18, and 19] Claim 16, wherein mutual authentication by the  
3 second authentication means is also carried out during transfer of the contents, and  
4 the transfer of the contents is continued when mutual authentication is established.

1        40. (Amended) The playback/recording apparatus defined in Claim 1 [or 2]  
2 further comprising a transfer instruction means for sending an instruction for  
3 transferring the contents, to the playback/ recording apparatus;  
4            wherein transfer of the contents is carried out according to the instruction of  
5 the transfer instruction means.

1        41. (Amended) The playback/recording apparatus defined in [any of Claims  
2 3, 6, and 7] Claim 3, further comprising a transfer instruction means for sending an  
3 instruction for transferring the contents, to the first apparatus;  
4            wherein transfer of the contents is carried out according to the instruction of  
5 the transfer instruction means.

1        42. (Amended) The playback/erasing apparatus as the first apparatus defined  
2 in [any of Claims 10, 11, 13, and 14] Claim 10, further comprising a transfer  
3 instruction means for sending an instruction for transferring the contents, to the first  
4 apparatus;  
5            wherein transfer of the contents is carried out according to the instruction of  
6 the transfer instruction means.

1        43. (Amended) The playback/recording apparatus defined in Claim 1 [or 2]  
2 further comprising a transfer display means for displaying whether the contents are  
3 being transferred or not;

4                wherein, when the contents are being transferred, it is displayed by the transfer  
5 display means for the outside of the apparatus.

1        44. (Amended) The playback/recording apparatus defined in [any of Claims  
2 3, 6, and 7] Claim 3, wherein:

3                the first apparatus is provided with a transfer display means for displaying  
4 whether the contents are being transferred or not; and

5                when the contents are being transferred, it is displayed by the transfer display  
6 means for the outside of the apparatus.

1        45. (Amended) The playback/erasing apparatus as the first apparatus defined  
2 in [any of Claims 10, 11, 13, and 14] Claim 10, further comprising a transfer display  
3 means for displaying whether the contents are being transferred or not;

4                wherein, when the contents are being transferred, it is displayed by the transfer  
5 display means for the outside of the apparatus.

1        46. (Amended) A storage medium or a removable storage medium having  
2 information indicating whether transfer of contents is permitted or not, on which  
3 transfer of contents is carried out by the playback/recording apparatus, or the  
4 playback/erasing apparatus as the first apparatus, or the recording apparatus as the  
5 second apparatus, which is defined in [any of Claims 1 to 45] Claim 3.

Please add new Claims 52-80.

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Certificate

I, Yuko Yagi, a member of Hayase & Company patent attorneys of 13F, NISSAY SHIN-OSAKA Bldg., 3-4-30, Miyahara, Yodogawa-ku, Osaka-shi, Osaka 532-0003, Japan, hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief the following is a true translation into English made by me of the PCT application PCT/JP01/04156 filed on May 18, 2001 by Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd..

Osaka, this 15<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2002

  
Yuko Yagi